

Claims

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3 1. A method of configuring an ATM address for a device coupled to
4 an ATM network, including the step of selecting said ATM address to include
5 a first portion selected to equal a value unique to a class of said devices;
6 and
7 a second portion of the ATM address comprising a switch number ID
8 selected to equal a second portion unique value, wherein said second portion unique
9 value is unique to the device.

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11 2. A method as in claim 1, wherein a default peer group ID is deter-
12 mined in response to said first portion, whereby devices from said class are by default
13 configured in the same PNNI protocol peer group.

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15 3. A method as in claim 1, wherein said class of devices are those
16 common to a manufacturer for said device, whereby devices from the same manufacturer
17 are by default configured in the same PNNI protocol peer group.

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19 4. A method as in claim 1, wherein said method of configuring is
20 applied to said device upon coupling said device to an ATM network.

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22 5. A method as in claim 1, wherein said first portion comprises a seven
23 byte field.

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2 6. A method as in claim 1, wherein said second portion comprises a six
3 byte field.

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5 7. A method as in claim 1, wherein said second portion unique value
6 includes a MAC address for said device.

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8 8. A method as in claim 1, wherein said step of selecting said ATM
9 address includes selecting

10 a third portion of the ATM address comprising a device number ID
11 selected to equal a third portion unique value; whereby a combination of said first
12 portion, said second portion and said third portion is unique to said device.

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14 9. A method as in claim 8, wherein said third portion unique value
15 comprises a MAC address for said device.

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17 10. A method as in claim 8, wherein said second portion unique value
18 and said third portion unique value collectively include a MAC address for said device.
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